"In the case of Sub-Magistrates, applications were invited from Members of the Bar and from persons in Government Service. The Collectors of certain districts were also asked to recommend suitable Assistant Public Prosecutors for appointment. Ten out of the 20 posts of Sub-Magistrates were filled up from Members of the Bar and the other 10 from persons in Government service.

"All the appointments are temporary, pending the framing of Service Rules."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, in making these appointments (subsequent appointments have been published in the newspapers), if the principle of not posting natives of a particular district to that district or the adjoining district is observed?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We have considered as far as possible this principle in the posting of District Magistrates and Subdivisional Magistrates. The High Court's recommendation in the matter has been accepted. In the posting of Sub-Magistrates, we have tried to see as far as possible that persons who have pecuniary interests in that place are not posted."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"I am not mentioning the case of any particular instance, because the gentleman posted for Anantapur is a particular friend of mine, and he has got the best reputation wherever he has gone. I am only making this suggestion that such appointments need not be made, because they have got relations in both Anantapur and Bellary districts."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"If the particular officer concerned feels any embarrassment in the matter, and if he informs the High Court (because the transfer is to be done by the High Court), the High Court will consider the matter."

Adequacy of laws preventing persons from entering into contracts with film companies.

*76 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have at any time examined the adequacy of existing laws preventing the parents of children and young persons from entering into contracts with film companies or other persons engaged in the commercial exploitation of children and young persons and if so, whether there are any proposals pending consideration either to amend the laws suitably or enact new legislation for the purpose?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Under the Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933, agreements to pledge the labour of children under 15 years of age are void; and parents or guardians making such agreements, persons with whom such agreements are made and also persons employing children in furtherance of such agreements are all punishable under the Act. It may also be

mentioned that the Madras Shops and Establishments Act, 1947 and the Factories Act, 1948 prohibit the employment of children under 14 years of age. There is no proposal to amend these Acts.''

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—'' Sir, in view of the fact that there is a provision of 15 years in one Act and 14 years in another Act, will the Government consider the desirability of bringing all the Acts on the same level and fix 15 years?''

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—'' The 15 years mentioned in the Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933, is a Central Act. The Factories Act is also a Central Act.''

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—'' Will the Government, Sir, bring this to the notice of the Central Government so that their attention may be drawn to this?''

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—'' We will consider the suggestion, Sir.''

Provision of accommodation and employment for the houseless population of the Madras City.

* 77 *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any census has been taken of the number of persons who sleep on the pavements in the City of Madras;

(*b*) whether any census has been taken of those who are in occupation of unauthorized huts or sheds in the City of Madras; and

(*c*) whether the Government have taken any steps to provide suitable accommodation and employment for those who come under the above category; and, if so, what the details of such steps are?

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—'' (*a*) A census of persons sleeping on pavements, platforms, pials of vacant houses, etc., was last taken by the Corporation of Madras on 25–11–1933. The number of such persons according to the census was 10,748.

'' (*b*) The Corporation of Madras maintains a list of unauthorized huts in the City. The number of such huts now is about 3,800. A census of persons occupying these huts has not however been taken.

'' (*c*) The Government have not so far taken steps to provide accommodation or employment to houseless people in the City. Seven houses are being maintained by the Corporation for providing shelter to the homeless and they accommodate in all 230 families.''

SRI P. R. K. SARMA:—'' May I ask, Sir, what attempts have been made to enrol people living in unauthorized huts as voters to the Legislature?''

THE HON. SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—'' A separate question may be put to the concerned Minister.''